

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03209 300734Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6867

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SEOUL 3209

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: KN US UN PFOR

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN NOTE TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REF: (A) STATE 101719, (B) SEOUL 3110, (C) SEOUL 3131

1. FONMIN PARK TONG-JIN CALLED IN AMBASSADOR APRIL 30 TO PROVIDE FORMAL ROK RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSED HANDLING OF NORTH KOREAN NOTE. IN ACCORD WITH THE CONTEXT OF THE CONVERSATION PRESIDENT PARK HAD HELD WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB ON DECEMBER 9, 1975, FONMIN SAID PRESIDENT AGREED TO OUR SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION. FONMIN ADDED THAT PRESIDENT WISHED US TO CONVEY OUR RESPONSE TO THE NORTH BY TELEPHONE, ONCE ONLY, AND SUGGESTED THAT THIS BE DONE WITHOUT DELAY IN ORDER TO GET A RESPONSE ON THE RECORD BEFORE POSSIBLE NORTH KOREAN PUBLICATION OF NOTE. FONMIN ALSO REQUESTED THAT ROKG BE INFORMED AS SOON AS WE HAVE RESPONDED TO NORTH. AMBASSADOR AGREED TO THIS. WHEN HE ASKED WHETHER INFORMATION SHOULD BE PASSED IN NEW YORK AS WELL AS SEOUL, FONMIN REQUESTED THAT NOTIFICATION BE GIVEN ONLY HERE IN SEOUL. HE SAID MOFA WOULD ADVISE ROK MISSION IN NEW YORK SO THAT IT COULD COORDINATE WITH USUN ON ADVISING CORE GROUP MEMBERS OF ACTIONS TAKEN. ASSUMING OUR ACTION TAKEN BEFORE THEN, HE THOUGHT CORE MEMBERS MIGHT BE ADVISED AT SCHEDULED MAY 5 MEETING.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SEOUL03209
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760164-0600
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976042/aaaaabhn.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 101719, 76 SEOUL 3110, 76 SEOUL 3131
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTH KOREAN NOTE TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TAGS: PFOR, KN, US, KS, UNSC, (PARK TONG-JIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006